

7:00 Meeting Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2012: Selectperson Fleming moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of December 18, 2012, Selectperson Wilkinson, seconded, Vote: 5-0.

Approval of
12/18/12 minutes.
Motion Approved

Selectperson Fleming stated that on page 2, it should read the issue of the town plowing roads, not paving them. On page 3, the Supt. speaks about the proposed Asst. Principal position, the comments from Martha Morgan should be moved up to the area where the Asst. Principal position is mentioned.

Selectmen Updates and Liaison Reports: Selectperson Murphy wishes to commend the Rockport Police Dept. on New Year's Eve., regarding high school students and a large party near Evan's Field. He continued that the situation could have been tragic, some folks have been critical about the fact that some kids got away and some didn't; the police kept the kids safe. Communities are losing kids to drugs and alcohol, it takes years for a community to heal from such an event. Selectperson Wilkinson thanked the Town Administrator for keeping the Board of Selectmen informed regarding the New Year's Eve. activities.

Selectmen Updates
and Liaison Reports

New Year's Eve
event for the Police
Department

Selectperson Sheedy stated that she and Selectperson Fleming reviewed the Community House Rules. Selectperson Sheedy is going to make the revisions to the rules and will distribute them to the Board Members for review. She recommended having Town Council review them, given the risk issues. This will be on a future agenda for the Board of Selectmen.

Community House
Rules under
development

Selectperson Murphy stated that he attended First Night in Rockport, it was a great time, and thanked Claire Franklin.

Public Comment Period:

Public Comment
Period

Toby Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, Long Beach renewal lease on agenda. Concerned about the leases generally, given the funding that will be needed for the Long Beach seawall. He inquired if there was some clause in the existing lease about the seawall breeching. Also, this will be brought forward at Town Meeting, will there be such a clause and questioned if it would be legal. He stated that at Town Meeting we'll be told that the town will be liable if the cottages are destroyed and this is a necessity.

Long Beach Lease
Renewal on Agenda

L. Sanders stated that the leases are up in December of 2013 and the existing leases certainly had legal review.

Chairperson Battistelli, said we are about to review the capital plan, this is our first look at this tonight, it is a work in progress. The priority is to begin to educate the Selectmen before adopting the capital plan.

Frederick Tarr, 154 Main Street, regarding the seawall construction, understands it may need to be taller and doesn't know how the residents feel about that. He questioned how the rest of the taxpayers will feel about this expense to subsidize those cottages. It may cost more to maintain the cottages than the revenue being brought in. He also commented that Claire did a wonderful job on New Year's Eve. Regarding MAPC, where do we stand on the railroad station and getting potholes filled, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent on plans. We need to be active on this.

Chairperson Battistelli stated that before the holidays she saw an e-mail from Mr. Barletta; he is interested in getting that committee back on board; she continued that she is the liaison to the MBTA committee.

Town Administrator's
Report

Town Administrator's Report:

Emergency Vehicle
Access issue on
streets

M. Vieira spoke about Emergency vehicle access issues, several streets have been flagged that we'll be working on to remedy some of these issues. Whether the road is public or private property will dictate the town's response. Stone Barn Lane will come before the Board, two spaces were made on School Street for compact cars only, still emergency vehicles can't get around that corner.

Ethics Commission
Update

Ethics Commission update, the Asst. to the Town Administrator attended the seminar. This is a 2 part process, there is an on-line test that is interactive, it takes about 20-35 minutes to complete with a test at the end; it is required every 2 years. This applies to all paid, unpaid, elected, individuals, anyone involved with the town. Everyone must sign-off on a yearly acknowledgement (11 page summary) verifying that they received the document. Anyone who doesn't comply is subject to a \$10,000 fine.

Increase Membership
of Millbrook
Committee

There is a request to increase the maximum membership on the Millbrook Committee, the current total is 5 members; there are 9 interested individuals.

Peter Gove, insurance
agent, retiring

Peter Gove, the town's insurance agent for many years, is retiring; there should be no change for the town.

Annual Report photos

Annual Report photos, front and back, are due by 1/17/13. Chairperson Battistelli stated that she will draft the letter from the Board of Selectmen and get it to all board members; it is due by 1/11/13.

Veterans' agent
position

The Veteran's agent position has six individuals interested; there is a small stipend for the position. The Town Administrator is seeking some direction on the hiring of this position from the Board. It was questioned if the Board would like the Town Administrator's office to take care of the hiring. The Town Administrator said that since it's a department head position, they will bring the leading candidate to meet and interview for the position.

Selectperson Wilkinson questioned if a letter of thanks could be sent to Peter Gove.

Town Administrator
made donation to
American Cancer
Society for employee

The Town Administrator said that she made a memorial donation from the Board to the American Cancer Society for the employee that passed away on Christmas Eve.

Selectperson Fleming, said at the last meeting Cameron Smith recommended having Rockport's Special Education program reviewed by a consultant to make any recommendations. She questioned if that should be looked at. She continued that if the Town of Rockport has the 6th highest in spending in the state, and we don't have a higher % of students, then maybe a study would show ways that the town could save money on how it organizes its program. She questioned if the Board of Selectmen could ask the school committee to look at that.

Selectperson Murphy stated that the Board of Selectmen doesn't have any authority over this. He continued that he is sure that the Supt. has reviewed this and knows what is necessary. Selectperson Murphy offered to speak to the Supt about this.

7:30 Action List

Action List:

Open April 6, 2013 Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants: Selectperson Sheedy moved to open the 4/6/13 STM warrants and the 4/6/12 ATM, seconded by Selectperson Fleming, Vote: 5-0.

Open 4/6/13 STM and ATM Warrants
Motion Approved

Acceptance of Resignation of George Hobbs from the Millbrook Meadow Committee: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the resignation of George Hobbs from the Millbrook Meadow Committee, Selectperson Sheedy seconded, Vote: 5-0.

Acceptance of Resignation of George Hobbs from Millbrook Meadow Committee
Motion Approved

Acceptance of Resignation of Sean Andrus as a Rockport Police Officer: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the resignation of Sean Andrus from the Rockport Police Department effective January 9, 2013 and to approve his transfer to the Salem Police Department and, further, to ask the Chairperson to sign the Civil Service Termination Notice Form 56 and the Request for Transfer approval form, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 5-0.

Acceptance of Resignation of Sean Andrus as Rockport Police Officer and approve transfer to Salem Police Dept.
Motion Approved

Acceptance of Oil Painting Gift from Pam Fox: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the oil painting entitled "Front Beach Gazebo" by Pamela Fox to be included in the town's art collection, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 5-0.

Acceptance of Oil Painting gift from Pam Fox
Motion Approved

CPA Grant Agreement with Rockport Friends of Scout Hall: Selectperson Fleming moved that the Board of Selectmen sign the agreement, seconded by Selectperson Wilkinson, Vote: 5-0.

Motion to approve the signing of agreement for CPA grant Agreement w/Rockport Friends of Scout Hall
Motion Approved

Lease for #30 Long Beach: Selectperson Fleming moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a lease for 30 Long Beach with Christine M. and Kenneth J. Kopocis, to reflect a name change, Selectperson Fleming seconded, Vote: 5-0.

Lease for #30 Long Beach – name change
Motion Approved

7:50 Selectmen Briefing

FY14 Capital Plan Review with the CIPC and Finance Committee. Wally Hess presenting, present are Carrie Arnaud, Roberta Josephson, and June Michaels. There were 97 requested line items; many were for items in multiple years, total of \$31M over 5 years. Meetings were held with department heads. 59 of the 97 requests for a total of \$3.8M are being recommended. The remainder will be

Selectmen Briefing

FY14 Capital Plan review with the CIPC and Finance Committee
Motion Approved

requested over the next 4 years. No major requests for town owned buildings were recommended due to the pending \$60,000 Master Building Plan update. 43 were recommended last year for \$2M, the year before that 26 items were recommended for \$1.4M. The \$13.M seawall is not included in the requests for FY '14, no major building projects are included with the exception of the DPW garage due to safety issues.

New IT Dept.

New accounting system for town, most expensive is approx. \$400,000, so \$100,000 is being recommended for this budget.

Restructuring of the IT dept. for the town, centralize IT operations, fiber optic network to tie all communication systems together, and wiring classrooms and data center with central server \$215,000, \$30,000, and \$110,000.

Municipal website \$20,000

Computers and printers \$600,000

E-document storage \$5,000

Police

Police Cruiser \$28,500

Parking Meter upgrade, \$55,000

Fire Dept.

New fire Gear \$76,000

50 lengths of 4" hose, \$10,000

Forest fire, replacement vehicle equip \$12,800

Schools

Elementary School playground \$100,000

Stair treads \$68,200

Carpeting \$12,000

Kitchen Equip \$19,000, large double and \$5,000 for swipe ability

Bathroom upgrades \$15,000 per pair of bathrooms

Exterior door replacement \$135,000

DPW

Pigeon Cove Harbor repairs \$550,000, FEMA commitment for \$85,000 already

IT space in Town Hall Annex \$40,000

Fuel monitoring \$15,000

Harbor wall and pilings \$40,000

Mini excavator \$30,000

Dump truck w/plow \$56,000

F150 Pick-up truck \$9,000 (general fund portion)

Riding mower \$11,000

Highway Drainage pipe \$10,000

Railing replacements \$10,000

Asset mgmt. program \$130,000

Bench replacements \$20,000

Trash barrel replacements \$15,000

Library: Computers \$16,000

Island lighthouses \$10,000

Building projects:

DPW facility design and construction \$75,000

Library fire escape replacement \$75,000

Old Police Station Roof repair \$20,000

Building Capital Improvements \$25,000

Wally Hess
Presented FY14
Capital Plan

continued

Toby Arsenian, 95 Granite Street stated that the 2.5% increase isn't that easy, if you haven't gone up the full 2.5% in the previous year, can't you carry it over.

W. Hess said there is excess levy in the neighborhood of \$150,000. That would be increasing taxes above that amount.

Toby Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, stated that the water & sewer accounts are what people are willing to vote at town meeting.

9:00 Discussion Items

FY14 Financial Plan and Budget Message: this needs to be done tonight, or discussed tonight; it is due by the next meeting because it goes to the Finance Committee. The Town Administrator said that the message is very similar to last year. She continued that there are standard articles on the warrant, assessors overlay fund, OPEB Trust Fund and capital reserves. Capital Improvement Plan can include grants and stabilization funds. Available grants for some of these capital items. Selectperson Sheedy questioned if the town is actively going after grants as it is looking like it's getting more and more critical to be able to find different sources of revenue. The Town Administrator stated that the town applies for and receives a substantial amount of money from grants.

Discussion Items:

FY 14 Financial
Plan & Budget
Message

Other Business/Announcements: Selectperson Murphy recommended a thank you letter to Claire Franklin and all those that helped in the New Year's Eve celebration.

Other Business/
Announcements
Thank you to Claire
Franklin for New
Year's Eve.
Celebration

9:20 Selectperson Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectperson Fleming, Vote: 4-0. Selectperson Wilkinson left the meeting at approx. 8:30 PM.

Warrant Signed:

Warrant signed for the Fiscal Year 2013 Payroll and Expenses for the week of 1/10/13 in the amounts of \$469,798.09 and \$1,034,216.98 respectively.

Items Signed:

Sean Andrus, Termination from the Police Dept.

Long Beach Lease, Kopocis, Lot #30

Rockport Friends of Scout Hall, Grant Agreement

Yankee Clipper Inn, Entertainment license

Brackett's Oceanview, Entertainment license

Spirin Lodge, #98, Entertainment license

Eliza's Top Dog, Inc., Common Victualler's license

Brother's Brew Coffee Shop, Two Brother's Coffee Shop, LLC, Common Victualler's license

Brackett's Oceanview Restaurant, Common Victualler's license
Rockin' Cupcakes, Common Victualler's license
Cape Hedge Inn, Lodging House license
Sally Webster Inn, Lodging House license
Pleasant Street Inn, Roger & Lynne Norris, Lodging House license
Lantana House, Richard Nestel, Lodging House license
Yankee Clipper Inn, Tina Batres, Innholder's license